

In the Claims

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A stent comprised of a tube form body having a body wall structure of a geometric pattern of cells defined by wire extending throughout the body portion and defining the cell pattern as a plurality of spaced sections of interconnected cells which in plan view are of polygonal configuration, at least one of the plurality of spaced sections having two rows of cells circumferentially distributed about the tube, each of the adjacent spaced sections being connected to each other by at least one straight connector section sections of the wire, the at least one straight connector section comprising at least a pair of wire segments ~~the straight sections being~~ longitudinally aligned with respect to the longitudinal dimension of the stent body.

Claim 2. (Cancelled)

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1 ~~including~~ wherein the at least one straight connector section comprises two connecting straight sections of the wire, the two being circumferentially spaced apart by about 180°.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1 ~~including~~ wherein the at least one straight connector section comprises three connecting straight sections of the wire, the three being circumferentially spaced apart by about 120°.

Claim 5. (Original) The stent of claim 1 in which the wire is of a nitinol alloy.

Claim 6. (Original) The stent of claim 1 in which the polygonal configuration is hexagonal.

Claim 7. (Original) The stent of claim 1 wherein the straight sections are disposed at an angle relative to the longitudinal axis of the stent.

Claim 8. (Original) The stent of claim 1 including a covering sleeve.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1 wherein the at least one straight connector section of the wire ~~connecting the spaced sections~~ extends continuously throughout the longitudinal length of the stent.

Claim 10. (Original) The stent of claim 9 including a plurality of continuous connecting wires.

Claim 11. (Original) The stent of claim 1 in which the cells are of a hexagonal configuration.

Claim 12. (Original) The stent of claim 11 in which at least some of the cells include two adjacent inverted sides which receive a connecting wire.

Claims 13-20. (Cancelled)